



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY  
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ALEXANDRIA:  
SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 12, 1859.

The Candidates nominated at Richmond, to form the State Ticket, in opposition to the Democratic ticket, are able men, worthy of the honorable position which they have been placed, and worthy to be the chosen leaders of their party in the approaching contest. Mr. Goggin is well known throughout the State. He has served in Congress with distinction; whilst his associates are also gentlemen of high characters, and of experience and attainments. The ticket is a strong one. It will command respect, and should enlist in its hearty support, all who desire the success of a conservative opposition to the party in power.

Most of the day, on Thursday, in the House of Representatives was taken up in discussing the bill reported by Mr. Stephens, for the admission of Oregon into the Union. The bill was opposed by Messrs. Grow, Granger, and Maynard, on account of the asserted want of sufficient population in the territory, and the clause in the constitution relative to citizenship—giving unnaturalized foreigners the right to vote, &c. It was advocated warmly by Messrs. Stephens, Hughes and Nichols, on the ground that there was evidence of sufficient numbers, and that its constitution being "Republican," the details as to citizenship, the right of persons to sue in the courts, &c., were not fair subjects of objection. There was a night session on Thursday, on which speeches were delivered on Cuba, fishing bounties, the Tariff, party politics, &c., &c.

The Cuba Acquisition bill was taken up in the Senate, again, on Thursday. Mr. Foot offered an amendment, that the treaty should be ratified by the United States, as well as by Spain, before any part of the money was paid. He wished the subject, after the negotiations had been concluded, to be acted upon by the Congress of the United States before any money should be expended. Mr. Pugh gave notice of an amendment to the bill, to the effect that the money to be expended for the acquisition of Cuba should be paid out of the Treasury, and not out of the proceeds of the sale of the public lands.

Advices from Honolulu of December 25th, have been received at San Francisco. The whaling season was closed. The whole number of whalers arrived at Honolulu was 218, the oil taken 130,000 barrels, and the amount of bone upwards of a million and a half pounds. The season was regarded as unprofitable. There was a terrific storm at Honolulu, Dec. 16th, flooding the streets, and in some instances submerging houses, destroying from ten to twenty thousand dollars worth of property.

The Bank of England have just agreed to lend a sum equal to \$15,000,000 to the Metropolitan Board of Works at 3½ per cent., to be expended during the next three or four years in completing the main drainage of London and the purification of the Thames. The loan is guaranteed by the Government and principal and interest are to be met by an annual rate equal to 1½ per cent. upon the value of all real estate in London.

The London Times devotes an editorial to Mr. Nugent, the late American Commissioner in British Columbia, and to the manifesto he issued before quitting his post for Washington. The Times commences by asking, "When will the emissaries of the United States learn that notoriety is not fame, and that mischief-making upon a large scale is not a title to public gratitude?" It then proceeds to criticize Mr. Nugent's acts with much severity.

Mr. Clingman and Mr. Simmons spoke on the Tariff, in the Senate, on Thursday, and Mr. Hunter had the floor, for yesterday, on the same subject. All the old arguments, pro and con, are gone over again—but applied particularly to the present condition of financial affairs.

Colonel P. St. George Cooke, 2d dragoons, has been assigned the duty of translating from the French that part of cavalry exercises called the "evolution of the line," and also of revising the system of cavalry tactics at present in use in the army.

Prescott's History of Philip the Second, of which three volumes have appeared, will be completed by Mr. Kirk, his amanuensis, to whom the blind historian expresses his obligations in the preface to the first volume of the work.

Mr. Stephens, of Georgia, denies that he desires to succeed Mr. Iverson in the Senate. He intends to withdraw entirely from public service for the rest of his life, and says he prefers a seat in the House to any other position in the Government.

The steamers Indian and America, from Liverpool, with dates to the 26th ult., are both fully due, the former at Portland, and the latter at Halifax.

The New York Post learns that Mr. Seeley's American chapel at Paris, established by the American and Foreign Christian Union, at an expense of \$40,000, has failed.

A writer in the Richmond Examiner, recommends Judge John Robertson, as a suitable candidate to represent the Richmond District in the Congress of the United States.

The Richmond Enquirer predicts "the certain approach of a crisis in the financial and commercial world, far more disastrous than that of 1857-58."

The Richmond Enquirer states that the taxes in Virginia are producing each year more than \$500,000 above the charges upon the treasury. It further says—"The entire amount of the floating debt of this State is concentrated in treasury notes, payable 12 months after their issue; and the amount outstanding at this time is \$295,400; and the holders have been requested to present them for payment in anticipation of their maturity; but this is declined in most cases, thus presenting a full and overflowing treasury, without the privilege of calling in and discharging its liabilities."

The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia North American, says: "It is not yet decided whether Mr. Sherman's committee will report this week. They are unanimous for the evidence does not admit of a division. There will be four separate reports on the principal subjects investigated, viz:—The coal and iron mines, the Philadelphia and Philadelphia Navy Yards, and the contracts for machinery. Together they will furnish a most striking commentary upon the President's Fort Duquesne letter."

The barque Tangier of some seven hundred tons burden, has just gone to sea from Baltimore, where she has been loaded with gas machinery, mains, materials, and men, for the erection of gas works to supply the city of Guayaquil, in South America. We learn that the Republic of Ecuador, of which Guayaquil is the principal seaport city, has granted most liberal privileges to E. R. Sprague, esq., of Baltimore, with a monopoly of the gas business, in all its branches, for a period of forty years.

But three weeks more will elapse before the "Baltimore Annual Conference" will commence its session in Lewisburg, Va.—The committees of examination are for the first year—J. M. Grandin, J. N. Combs and A. W. Wilson. Second year—David Thomas, John S. Deal and J. E. Armstrong. Third year—M. L. Hunsley, J. Thrush and S. Rogers. Fourth year—Littleton F. Morgan, George G. Brooke and Fielder Israel.

The sheriff of Henrico county, was called on on Friday last, to dispossess a helpless family of a house, the rent of which they were unable to pay. The sheriff seeing that the father of the family was in feeble health, and that the wife had no means of getting a livelihood, procured a hack, and sent them to the poor-house. If he had turned them into the road, as he might have done, they would have perished.

The Historical Painter, Leutze, widely known through his picture of "Washington crossing the Delaware," arrived in New York on Friday from Germany, after an absence of nearly seven years. He is soon to visit Washington, and his admirers are moving to procure for him the painting of a historical picture for the walls of the Capitol. "The Battle of Princeton," of which he has a spirited sketch, is the subject proposed.

Judge John Robertson, in one of his late essays in the Richmond Enquirer, declares that the innovating spirit of the Federal authorities, at this day, more perhaps than at any period since the foundation of the government, seem to menace a radical change of its Republican features. He argues boldly against the right to purchase Cuba.

The coming of the 42d regiment of Highlanders to New York, en route for Aspinwall and British Columbia, begins to be sharply questioned; and by many is looked upon as a mere newspaper invention or bluff. It is, however, a fact, and the 42d Highlanders for they are now in Northern India.

Lawrence P. Crain, a lawyer of Shreveport, La., and a native of Loudoun county, Va., died on the 28th ult.

Georgia and Pennsylvania.

There is, so far, a remarkable balance in the opposing forces in the ranks of the Democracy, on the question of a change in the tariff of 1857. Pennsylvania and Georgia, nearly equal in territory—one more largely engaged in manufacturing among the Northern States, and the other more largely in agriculture—stand face to face in the van of the battle. They are represented respectively by Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Cobb, in the Cabinet; and in the Senate, by Mr. Bigler and Mr. Toombs, on the one side and on the other. At first sight, the contest would appear unequal, inasmuch as the President's weight, under ordinary circumstances, would turn the scale; but having failed to avail himself of his right, and as we have contended, his duty, to dictate the policy of the Government to his subordinates, he has lost, not only the control of his Administration, but his prestige in his party.

The difficulty, therefore, assumes the shape of a stand-up fight—man to man, and State to State.—Mr. Buchanan claiming no advantage from the accident of his being in position to enforce his demands, and Pennsylvania deriving none from the fact that her champion, by her vote, has been made President of the United States.—*Balt. Exchange.*

Capt. Jarvis, of Norfolk. The Petersburg Intelligencer says:—"We had the pleasure last evening of taking by the hand that excellent man and good Whig, Capt. Jarvis, of Norfolk, who is now on his way to the Richmond Convention."

Capt. Jarvis left the army of 1814-15, to take the post of inspector of Lumber at the Norfolk Navy Yard, and held the place uninterruptedly for 46 years. He was removed to make place for some partisan, during Mr. Pierce's administration. A singular fatality has attended his successors. The first died of yellow fever two months after he was appointed; the second committed suicide by hanging; the third was detected giving revenge; while the fourth, who now fills the place, has been but recently appointed."

In the meantime the old veteran, thus proscribed for his political opinions, has turned his attention to other pursuits, and continued to prosper. It may be said of him without fear of contradiction, that he was of more use to the Government than he was of more use to him, when he was ejected from his office.—*Norfolk Herald.*

William and Mary College.

This is the third time the College has suffered from fire. An irreparable loss has now occurred, in the destruction of portraits, rare books, and other precious relics of antiquity including, we suppose, George Washington's manuscript letter of acceptance of the Chancellorship of the College.

We sincerely trust that the lectures will not be suspended, and take it for granted that the people of Virginia will at once rally to the restoration of this noble and time-honored institution. The walls were built in the substance of a fashion of old times as solid as those of a fort, and are yet no doubt capable of outlasting most of our modern buildings. We hope there will be a universal and enthusiastic movement through the State to rebuild, modernize and render more attractive the buildings of this ancient school of which Virginia and the country at large, are under such profound and long-standing obligations.—*Rich. Dia.*

#### THE STATE CONVENTION.

RICHMOND, Feb. 10, 1859.—The delegates to the Opposition Convention, representing every portion of the Commonwealth of Virginia, assembled, in great numbers, to-day, in the African Church, at 12 o'clock M.

The Convention was called to order by Francis B. Deane, esq., of Lynchburg, on whose motion, HON. ALEXANDER RIVES was appointed temporary Chairman.

Mr. Rives returned his thanks to the Convention for the unexpected honor conferred upon him, and proceeded to deliver an address, in which he eloquently reviewed and exposed the short-comings of the Democratic party. In the outset of his remarks, he said, that it would be unnecessary to employ the phrases common upon such occasions, as he had been called upon to preside over those which were instinctive and distinctive characteristics of the observance of order and decorum. Upon short notice he had been called upon to preside over an assembly which had rarely been surpassed in numbers or character. Its presence here, under the circumstances, afforded a most hopeful augury for the best interests of the State. We had not been brought together by the lust for place, or by the gleam of the glittering spoils which we may not clutch. We are here as the vanquished, but true it is that though we have been defeated upon many a hard fought field, our valor has not been quenched. We are here, in lists "eager for the fray," ready and willing to follow where duty calls us, and determined to assert and maintain the principles which we avow.

On motion of Mr. Deane, Messrs. Robt. Ridgway and Jas. McDonald, of the Richmond Whig, were appointed temporary Secretaries.

Col. Thos. M. Bondurant, of Buckingham, moved the appointment of a committee of thirteen, to nominate permanent officers of the Convention. Carried.

The Chairman appointed the following Committee, who forthwith retired: Col. T. M. Bondurant, of Buckingham; Col. D. B. Barringer, of Montgomery; R. E. Scott, of Fauquier; P. H. Daughtry, of Norfolk; David Chambers, of Halifax; Jacob B. Blair, of Wood; John M. McCue, of Augusta; Col. Jas. L. Ransom, of Jefferson; H. K. Ellyson, of Richmond; W. B. Caldwell, of Greenbrier; Wm. Price, of Monongalia; Richard Baylor, of Essex; and Dr. G. McDonnell, of Alleghany.

Loud calls were then made successively for Botts, Gilmer, Crane, Tazewell, Preston, Ridgway, and so on, until the roll was called, and the calls for Mr. Botts were the loudest. A delegate arose and advised the Convention to wait until everybody had come. Everybody, he said, was here to hear Mr. Botts.

Mr. Ridgway, in response to the repeated calls, arose and addressed the meeting. He said that he hardly knew by what right he appeared in the Convention at all, or even upon this earth. (Great laughter and applause.) According to high Democratic authority, this world was not his home. (Renewed merriment.)

In common with all other members of the Convention he belonged to another sphere—the realm of the ghosts—of the dead. He stood before them as a "ghost"—as an erring spirit from the land of dreams—and, therefore, had not the faculty of speech. (Applause.) But all of us had the faculty of locomotion, as will be demonstrated by our unrelenting pursuit of honest John Letcher, in the ensuing campaign. Mr. R. rejoiced that there was no law in Virginia for the apprehension of the fugitive dead, for judging from the scene before him, his neighbor, the Governor, if he had the power, would call out the army and navy of Virginia, including the militia and the oyster fleet squadron, and have us all arrested! (Laughter and cheers.) Mr. R. closed his remarks with an appeal to the Whigs to rally around their old banner, and with the selection of proper men as our standard bearers, we will not only run Mr. Letcher to the neck, but may triumph gloriously in the coming election.

At the conclusion of Mr. Ridgway's remarks, Mr. A. J. Crane, of Richmond, in response to repeated calls, came forward, and addressed the Convention for half an hour. When he closed, Col. Bondurant, from the committee appointed to nominate permanent officers, presented the following report, which was unanimously adopted:

Wm. BELLARD, PRESTON, Montgomery, RICHMOND, T. LACY, New Kent, James C. White, Norfolk County, Wm. Townes, Norfolk, Vincent Wheeler, Pittsylvania, Wm. C. Scott, Powhatan, John A. Carter, Loudoun, Dr. Terrill, Orange, John Lewis, Rockingham, Walter R. Staples, Montgomery, B. F. Wyse, Pulaski, A. L. Berkshire, Monongalia, John A. Hutcheson, Wood, Henry W. Thomas, Fairfax, Dr. McCorkle, Cabell, Wm. H. Macfarland, Richmond, SECRETARIES.

R. Ridgway and J. McDonald, Richmond, J. B. Bingham, Wheeling, John E. Scruggs, Fauquier, A. K. Moore, Petersburg, Wm. M. Seay, Lynchburg, Wm. Smith, Lexington, Richard Mauney, Rockingham, Edgar Snowden, Jr., Alexandria, John S. Gallaher, Charlottesville, John A. Kelley, Fredericksburg.

The President, Hon. W. B. Preston was escorted to the Chair by Messrs. Bondurant, of B. and Scott, of Fauquier, and ably addressed the Convention upon the political topics of the day.

On motion of Mr. Scott, of Fauquier, it was resolved that a committee consisting of one delegate from each Senatorial District be appointed, to nominate candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General. The resolution was adopted after being amended so as to provide that the members should be designated by the delegates representing the respective Senatorial Districts.

The Convention then took a recess until 4 o'clock P. M.—*Rich. Whig.*

EVENING SESSION.—The Convention re-assembled at 4 o'clock, when the President announced the committee under Mr. Scott's resolution, as follows:—

Ro. E. Scott, Fauquier District; F. F. Ferguson, City of Norfolk; Edward P. Tayloe, Stafford District; Jas. B. Bingham, Ohio District; O. Q. Tompkins, Fayette District; Jas. F. Preston, Montgomery District; Jas. E. Johnston, Bedford District; F. B. Deane, Jr., Campbell District; Jacob B. Blair, Wood District; Wm. Martin, Franklin District; Thomas Bruce, Halifax District; Francis H. Epes, Nottoway District; John McCue, A. B. Gustaf, District; Wm. Terry, Wythe District; Hugh Barclay, Rockbridge District; J. Harcelson, Kelly, Spotsylvania District; B. H. McCruder, Albemarle District; Marmaduke Johnson, Richmond City; Daniel F. Slaughter, Culpeper District; John Lumpkin, King and Queen District; Delius O. Maupin, Hardy District; Thos. H. Wilcox, Williamsburg District; John M. Harrison, Loudoun District; Ro. B. Boling, Petersburg District; J. A. Graves, Surry District; Wm. D. Massey, Alexandria District; Williams C. Beckham, Hanover District; Wm. Price, Monongalia District; Jas. G. Holliday, Portsmouth District; A. B. Evans, Matthews District; Wood Bullin, Charlottesville District; Ro. K. Irving, Amherst District; Chas. Carter Lee, Cumberland District; G. W.

Lewis, Westmoreland District; Dr. G. McDonnell, Alleghany District; R. R. Weisiger, Giles District; R. M. Fields, Russell District; Greenville Smith, Greenbrier District; J. Bartlett, Wood District; S. S. Weisiger, Dinwiddie District; Thos. J. Preble, Southampton District; Dr. Thos. P. Atkinson, Pittsylvania District; Col. Clayton C. Coleman, Lunenburg District; J. L. Ransome, Jefferson District; Jno. S. Gallaher, Frederick District; Geo. H. Lewis, Rockingham District; Dr. A. M. McCorkle, Cabell District; R. B. Berkshire, Preston District.

It was moved and carried, that the committee forthwith retire to execute the business entrusted to it. Before the adoption of this motion, a letter from Hon. A. H. H. Stuart, and another from Hon. Wm. C. Rives, were read to the Convention, and elicited enthusiastic demonstrations of applause.

After the nominating committee had retired, R. T. Daniel, Esq., of this city, was vociferously called for. In response to the summons, he ascended the platform, and addressed the Convention for some length of time, being frequently interrupted with cheers and applause. He was especially severe on Mr. Letcher for having advocated a division of the State. "If he so had declared himself," said Mr. D., "when dreaming, or when drunk, or deranged, he should never receive my vote."

Waller Staples, esq., of Montgomery, was next called to the stand, and delivered an inspiring and eloquent speech.

A. J. Crane, esq., moved that the President appoint a Central Committee, to consist of thirty Whigs and Americans. The motion was agreed to, and the President authorized to designate the committee at some subsequent period of the session.

The nominating committee having returned, the Chairman, Mr. Scott, of Fauquier, arose and said:

The committee who were appointed to nominate to the Convention the names of suitable persons to fill the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General, have had that matter under consideration, and have instructed me to report in part, and ask you to sit further, in order that they may maturely discharge their duty before them.

Before announcing the action of the committee as far as I am commissioned to do so, I beg leave to say that I am addressing you as Whigs and Americans. Every true Whig is an American, (applause) and every true American is a Whig—(applause.) I beg leave, further to say, and I do so in obedience to the commands of the committee, that in making the nominations we were unanimous in the choice of the candidate to be proposed to you for the office of Chief Magistrate. The individual thus selected has a record with him, a character without reproach. He is one who has no errors of ancient or modern date to retract (applause.) He is one who has ever been heart and soul, a Virginia Whig. (Great applause.) Sir, permit me to announce to you the name of William L. Goggin. (Thundering applause and long continued cheering followed this announcement.)

The report of the Committee was adopted, by acclamation, when the question was formally put to the Convention by the President.

Col. Chas. A. Lewis gave notice, that Hon. John Minor Botts would address the Convention to-morrow (Friday) morning, as soon as the supplemental report of the nominating Committee had been disposed of, if it would be the pleasure of the Convention to hear him then.

Wm. Martin esq., of Henry, moved the appointment of a Committee of thirteen, to prepare resolutions as the basis of the action of the Convention. The motion was agreed to, and the President deferred the appointment of the committee.

On motion of Jas. A. Scott, esq., of Richmond, the Convention adjourned until 8 o'clock, P. M.

#### A Slave Destroyed by a British Steamer.

The Navy Department is in receipt of advices from Commander Totten, of the African squadron, announcing the capture, seizure and burning of the brig Rufus Scales, Capt. Anderson, by the steamer Viper, of the British Squadron, on the 24th inst. One of the R. S. squadron testified that it was said by some of the crew of the Viper that she was burned because they had no men to send away in her, and that they had orders to burn one out of every three vessels taken. The steamer were landed on the beach at Kabaena.—Com. Totten had demanded an explanation of the commander of the Viper, who responded to these categorical questions put by Com. Totten, as follows:

First, Had the vessel the American flag flying at the time she was visited by the boat? Answer. She had the American flag flying, and from information from the British crew, ascertained that it was said by some of the crew of the Viper that she was burned because they had no men to send away in her, and that they had orders to burn one out of every three vessels taken. The steamer were landed on the beach at Kabaena.—Com. Totten had demanded an explanation of the commander of the Viper, who responded to these categorical questions put by Com. Totten, as follows:

Second, If her papers were correct? Answer. In my opinion they were incorrect, some of them undoubtedly so.

Third, If the American flag was still flying when the hatches were opened? Answer. The American flag was not flying when the vessel's hatches were opened. The flag and papers were thrown into the sea by the captain, without even a suggestion on my part.

Com. Totten replied that it was unsatisfactory, as it made no mention of the circumstances of the burning of the brig, without legal investigation. Com. Holkinton rejoined by referring the American officer to the British Admiral, and this closes the report to the Navy Department.

#### Not a "Hopeful Convert."

A cruel robbery was perpetrated at Father Mason's prayer meeting, at the corner of North and Ferry streets, on Tuesday noon. A young man was in attendance at the meeting, and apparently was deeply interested in the religious exercises. He sat immediately behind the venerable Deacon Lewis Wilder, and during the singing looked over the Deacon's hymn book. In the midst of the service he called the Deacon to the door and informed him that he had been a great sinner, but then felt himself to be under conviction. He was desirous, he said, of returning from his sinful ways, and asked to have the way of salvation pointed out to him. The good old man was naturally interested in the case of the young convert, and addressed to him some pious counsel. But alas! for the depravity of the human heart. The young man asked what time it was, and the unsuspecting Deacon had no sooner removed his watch from his pocket than it was snatched from his hands, and the thief was on his way down stairs. The Deacon started in pursuit and ran down North street, crying "stop thief," his white locks streaming in the wind, but the hypocritical rascal proved the swiftest of foot, and turning down into Commercial street was soon lost to view.—*Boston Herald.*

#### Rumors.

It is stated that in a recent communication to the House of Representatives, as to the expediency of certain reductions in expenses, Secretary Floyd uses the remark that the reductions would be practicable were it not for the demands of members of Congress!

It is believed that the President will veto the Agricultural College bill, and also, the bill to amend the color act, a piece sufficient to lay to sleep a general use. This modern chemistry has at length effected, and probably of a quality, and brilliancy, much superior to that displayed in the royal robes of Persia or Rome.

#### TELEGRAPHIC DESPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—A letter from Paris by the last steamer, from a prominent statesman, states on information received from Madrid, that it is not probable Mr. Preston will be received as United States Minister, but if he should be received, the first intimation from him relative to the purchase of Cuba would be deemed sufficient ground for giving him his passport. Our government, however, is not in receipt of any official information from Spain on that subject.

It is stated in well informed circles that the reinstatement, by Gen. Miramon, of Zuloaga, in the presidency of Mexico, was at the instance of France and England, who have an especial interest in his administration, in connection with the debts due those governments.

The effect of the vote in the House laying the Nebraska contested election case on the table, is to continue Judge Ferguson in his seat as delegate from that Territory.

The impression prevails that the proposition to place money at the command of the President to negotiate for the acquisition of Cuba will pass the Senate, but will be defeated by a large majority in the House.

LEAVENWORTH, Feb. 10.—Mr. Lawrence, an old Californian, just returned from Cherry Creek, brings the most cheering accounts of the prospects of the mines. He estimates the amount of dust in the hands of the miners at Denver city at from \$15,000 to \$20,000. No sales were made for less than \$20 per ounce. The organization of Arapahoe county had been perfected. Public buildings were being erected, and perfect harmony and good order prevail among the miners. The population distributed along Cherry Creek has been augmented to some three thousand persons.

MIDDLETOWN, C. T., Feb. 9.—The Democratic State Convention of Connecticut met to-day. General James T. Pratt was nominated for Governor by acclamation, after an informal ballot. K. H. Winslow was nominated Lieutenant Governor by acclamation, without any ballot. The rest of last year's state ticket was unanimously re-nominated.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 10.—President Folkes, of the Southern Pacific Railroad, has arrived here from Marshall, Texas, and has deposited the stockholders' loan in bank here. He will address the public to-night. He reports a deficit of \$200,000 in the accounts of the road.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 8.—The steamer Cherocree, from New Orleans, for the Tennessee river, collided with the steamer McKim, opposite Island No. 33, yesterday morning. The Cherocree sank, but can be raised. No lives were lost.

BOSTON, Feb. 10.—The steamship Arabia yesterday took out \$70,000 in specie. In going down the harbor she got aground, but came off without damage, after three hours' detention, and anchored at quarantine until the fog disappeared.

#### Blind Men Eminent in Literature.

In an editorial of decided ability, and not without deep interest, which appears in the Richmond Examiner on the "Death of President, the Historian," it is stated:

"Many of our contemporaries speak of Mr. Prescott as one of the few instances of a man deprived of his sight in early life having become eminent in literature. This, however, is a mistake. From Diotides, the blind teacher of Philosophy, Geometry and Music, to Samuel Willard, an eminent blind divine now eighty-three years of age, there have been not less than eighty blind men distinguished in politics, literature, science, theology, and the mechanical arts. Milton made his name immortal, after the loss of his vision. Sanderson, one of the most eminent Professors of Mathematics that Oxford ever possessed, was born blind; Huber, strange to say, one of the most eminent writers on Entomology, was a blind man—and yet his work on "Bees and Ants" is the best ever written. Fielding, the great novelist, and Metcalf, a famous English Engineer and Surveyor, Augustin Thierry, the historian of the Norman Conquest, who died last year, and who was almost as great a historian as Prescott, was blind. Indeed, we might, from an article in the Encyclopedia Britannica on eminent blind men, cite fifty other instances of men who have attained great eminence in all the walks of life, who were blind from early childhood. One of the most attractive and entertaining books of the day, and one which may be found in every book-store, is a collection of lectures, "Sketches, &c.," by the Rev. Wm. H. Millham, a Methodist minister, who lost his sight when a boy, and who, as a itinerant preacher, has, during the last twelve years, travelled over 200,000 miles in the performance of his clerical duties, and who is an eloquent and learned divine, as well as an able and entertaining writer."

#### A New Wilson.

A Col. W. T. Olson, one of the democratic candidates for Alderman of Atlanta, is emphatically one of the orators of the hour. He holds a high position as a specimen of his race, and qualifications given in the last issue of the American. A public meeting was held in that city Thursday night last, at which the Colonel led off in the following grand style upon the glorious achievements of the Democracy:

"Brother Democrats," said he, "look at your city! Its prosperity was never so great, and it is all due to the Democratic party—Atlanta has increased in taxable property; look at these splendid houses and stores erected since the Democratic party was elected in 1848, and then feel proud as you reflect that the Democratic party was the cause of it. And in the last year we had a most glorious revival of religion, under a Democratic administration, a thing which never occurred, as you all know, under an American administration! What Democrat does not feel proud of his party when such results can be traced to it? But that is not all, brother Democrats. The glorious old Democratic party accomplished more than that. It outdid and outshone itself, surpassing all its former glories. Last year we had two Comets, which you never would have had if it had not been for the Democratic party! (The rapturous applause which followed this announcement, interrupted the speaker several minutes.) Great and glorious, and surpassing as this did all former achievements of the party, it is nothing, gentlemen, to what we will do if you place us in power this year, as I know you will on Monday next. For the year we intend to build more houses, have more revivals, and to have three of the biggest kind of comets with tails as long as the faces of our American friends will be, next Tuesday morning." (Great applause.)

#### An Original Compliment.

"Sentinel" in the New York Courier & Enquirer describes an original and flattering compliment upon Mr. Everett's oratory, as follows:

"Mr. Everett, in his delineation of the sleeping car, complains of having been disturbed by a conversation between the Superintendent of the Central Road and another railway official. It is seldom that—

"The censor of censure is swung  
And returns with the increase of praise."

I think I could assure him that there is not a railway man from President to brakeman who would not willingly, even at the close of a day amidst the jar of the engine or the anxieties of superintendence, gladly, delightedly sit up half the night to hear his melody of voice, to hear the utterances that framed such delineation as that of the "everlasting hollies of the sky."

Indeed the best because fresh and original, of compliments I ever heard given to Mr. Everett, was by a railway man, a brave one too, he is. Oh me, I remember to have met him searching amidst the wreck for his dying fireman and wounded engineer! We were all at Birmingham, and listening to Mr. Everett's glorious discourse on Washington. The admission fee was fifty cents. When the address was finished, this man turned from his seat and said to his friend who sat next him, and said he, "This ought to have been a dollar!"

#### Taking the Names of Passengers.

By a recent act of the President of the New York and Erie Railroad, the conductors are required to ascertain the names of all the passengers, and make a register of them in a book provided for that purpose. The absurdity of the requirement was aptly illustrated the other day, on the Elmira and Watkins branch of the road. The conductor, coming up to a passenger, demanded his name, "Jackson," was the reply. To the next he put the same interrogatory, and was promptly answered, "Charles Morgan." The third gave his name as "Headley," but the fourth, not being quite so accommodating, or supposing that there was some unnecessary use of his name, replied, "None of your damned business." The conductor put the answers all down, and the last one was as near correct as the three preceding, though there was a kind of bitterness in the tone in which it was uttered. In this way it goes—scarcely a passenger giving his right name to the conductor. The names thus collected, however, are sent on to head-quarters with regularity and dispatch, and the President is promptly answered, "Charles Morgan." The third gave his name as "Headley," but the fourth, not being quite so accommodating, or supposing that there was some unnecessary use of his name, replied, "None of your damned business." The conductor put the answers all down, and the last one was as near correct as the three preceding, though there was a kind of bitterness in the tone in which it was uttered. In this way it goes—scarcely a passenger giving his right name to the conductor. The names thus collected, however, are sent on to head-quarters with regularity and dispatch, and the President is promptly answered, "Charles Morgan." The third gave his name as "Headley," but the fourth, not being quite so accommodating, or supposing that there was some unnecessary use of his name, replied, "None of your damned business." The conductor put the answers all down, and the last one was as near correct as the three preceding, though there was a kind of bitterness in the tone in which it was uttered. In this way it goes—scarcely a passenger giving his right name to the conductor. The names thus collected, however, are sent on to head-quarters with regularity and dispatch, and the President is promptly answered, "Charles Morgan." The third gave his name as "Headley," but the fourth, not being quite so accommodating, or supposing that there was some unnecessary use of his name, replied, "None of your damned business." The conductor put the answers all down, and the last one was as near correct as the three preceding, though there was a kind of bitterness in the tone in which it was uttered. In this way it goes—scarcely a passenger giving his right name to the conductor. The names thus collected, however, are sent on to head-quarters with regularity and dispatch, and the President is promptly answered, "Charles Morgan." The third gave his name as "Headley," but the fourth, not being quite so accommodating, or supposing that there was some unnecessary use of his name, replied, "None of your damned business." The conductor put the answers all down, and the last one was as near correct as the three preceding, though there was a kind of bitterness in the tone in which it was uttered. In this way it goes—scarcely a passenger giving his right name to the conductor. The names thus collected, however, are sent on to head-quarters with regularity and dispatch, and the President is promptly answered, "Charles Morgan." The third gave his name as "Headley," but the fourth, not being quite so accommodating, or supposing that there was some unnecessary use of his name, replied, "None of your damned business." The conductor put the answers all down, and the last one was as near correct as the three preceding, though there was a kind of bitterness in the tone in which it was uttered. In this way it goes—scarcely a passenger giving his right name to the conductor. The names thus collected, however, are sent on to head-quarters with regularity and dispatch, and the President is promptly answered, "Charles Morgan." The third gave his name as "Headley," but the fourth, not being quite so accommodating, or supposing that there was some unnecessary use of his name, replied, "None of your damned business." The conductor put the answers all down, and the last one was as near correct as the three preceding, though